

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
20 November 2003 (20.11.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2003/096289 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G07F 11/14**,
11/42

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/ZA2003/000047

(22) International Filing Date: 9 April 2003 (09.04.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
02/2792 10 April 2002 (10.04.2002) ZA
02/6565 16 August 2002 (16.08.2002) ZA

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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,

CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,
MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG,
SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN,
YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

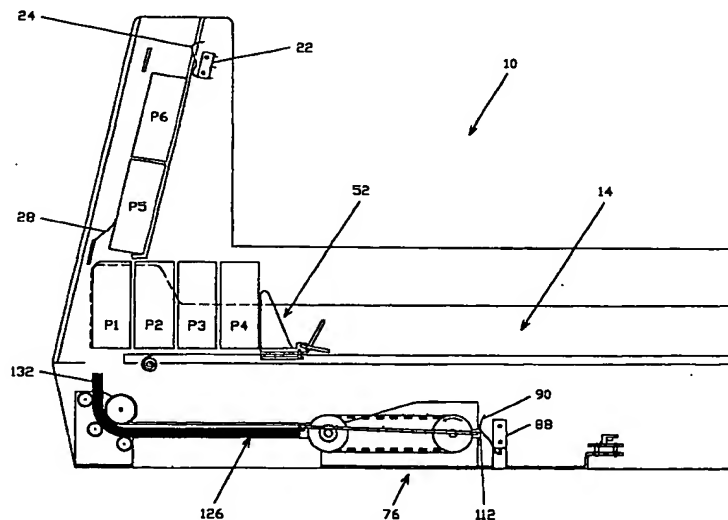
Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of
amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
29 April 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DISPENSERS PARTICULARLY, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, FOR CIGARETTE PACKETS



(57) Abstract: A dispenser (10) for dispensing packets particularly, but not exclusively cigarette packets, is disclosed. The dispenser (10) comprises a magazine (14) for holding a plurality of packets (P1, P2, P3, P4) standing in an upright position and a column (12) for dispensing the packets. A pressure plate (52) is provided for pushing the plurality of packets towards a dispensing end of the magazine (14). The dispenser (10) also comprises a dispensing mechanism (76) for driving a coil spring (126) which pushes the first packet (P1) of the plurality of packets in the magazine (14) upwardly into the column (12) and causes the uppermost packet (P6) within the column (12) to be dispensed.

WO 2003/096289 A3

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G07F11/14 G07F11/42

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G07F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 962 867 A (FICKEN LEONARD A ET AL) 16 October 1990 (1990-10-16) abstract column 1, line 37 - line 48 column 1, line 58 - column 2, line 20 column 3, line 44 - line 67 column 4, line 12 - line 18 column 4, line 28 - line 41 column 5, line 65 - column 6, line 28 figures 1-4,9	1-15
A	DE 198 46 791 A (HANS HERMANN TRAUTWEIN SB TECH) 13 April 2000 (2000-04-13) column 1, line 19 - line 66 column 2, line 19 - line 39 column 3, line 15 - line 37 figures 1,7	1-15

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 March 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

17/03/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/CA 03/00047

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	<p>GB 467 584 A (COCA COLA CO;LOUIS HUNTINGTON MORIN) 21 June 1937 (1937-06-21) page 1, column 1, line 22 - line 35 page 3, column 1, line 45 -column 2, line 1 page 4, column 2, line 109 - line 117 page 6, column 1, line 12 - line 37 figures 1,5,10</p> <p>----</p>	1-15
A	<p>WO 99 04375 A (ROTHMANS OF PALL MALL ;WATTS GRAHAM RICHARD (AU)) 28 January 1999 (1999-01-28) the whole document</p> <p>-----</p>	1-15

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International Application No

PCT/ZA 03/00047

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